

chamber volume is that uniformity in temperature is more easily maintained. Additionally, the small tube volume allows furnace 24 to be made smaller, and as a result, system 10 may be made smaller, requiring less clean room floor space. Inner chamber 52 may be made of quartz, silicon carbide,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ , or other suitable material.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.121(c)(1)(ii), Attachment A provides a marked up version of the paragraph containing the newly introduced changes.

#### REMARKS

All claims as filed remain pending in the application.

Applicant has amended FIGS. 6, 7A, 7B and 7C to remove centerlines and superfluous lines to improve the clarity of the figures. Applicant has also included or removed lines that appear to have been inadvertently removed while the drawings were photocopied for filing with the present application. Applicant believes that no new matter is added by the correction of these figures and that the scope of the claims is not affected.

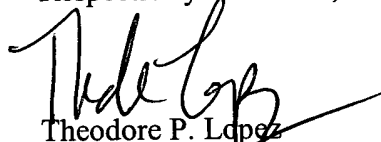
Applicant has found typographical errors in the specification. Applicant has amended the specification to change an incorrect dimension from " $\text{mm}^3$ " to " $\text{--cm}^3\text{--}$ ". Applicant believes that no new matter is added by the correction of this typographical error and that the scope of the claims is not affected. This correction makes the specification clear and consistent.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO:

EL 849 434 636 US

Respectfully submitted,

  
Theodore P. Lopez  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 44,881

LAW OFFICES OF  
SKJERNEN MORRILL  
MACPHERSON LLP

25 METRO DRIVE  
SUITE 700  
SAN JOSE, CA 95110  
(408) 453-9200  
FAX (408) 453-7979



## ATTACHMENT A

FIGS. 3A and 4A, are simplified illustrations of embodiments of furnace 24. In each embodiment, furnace 24 may include a closed-end process inner chamber 52, which defines an interior cavity 54. In one embodiment, inner chamber 52 may be constructed with a substantially rectangular cross-section, having a minimal internal volume surrounding wafer 22. For example, the volume of inner chamber 52 may be no greater than about 5000  $\text{cm}^3$  [ $\text{mm}^3$ ], preferably the volume is less than about 3000  $\text{cm}^3$  [ $\text{mm}^3$ ]. One result of the small chamber volume is that uniformity in temperature is more easily maintained. Additionally, the small tube volume allows furnace 24 to be made smaller, and as a result, system 10 may be made smaller, requiring less clean room floor space. Inner chamber 52 may be made of quartz, silicon carbide,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ , or other suitable material.

LAW OFFICES OF  
SKJERVEN MORRILL  
MACPHERSON LLP

25 METRO DRIVE  
SUITE 700  
SAN JOSE, CA 95110  
(408) 453-9200  
FAX (408) 453-7979